

## (iii) In North Northumberland VC 68

The decline of the Orange Tip in Berwickshire towards the end of last century was matched by a similar decline in north Northumberland (VC 68).

Thus, in 1839, P. J. Selby recorded it on his estate at Twizell near Belford (*Ann. of Nat. Hist.* 3, 372); in 1843, Dr. Johnston observed it on May 3rd on the south bank of Tweed between Horncliffe and Norham (*H.B.N.C.* 2, 44); and in 1857, George Wailes noted it near Callaly on 4th June and added "Generally distributed over the two counties (i.e. Durham and Northumberland) (*T.T.N.F.C.* 3, 195).

In 1867 the butterfly was recorded at Lilburn Tower on 28.3.1867 (a very early date), and again on 10.6.1869 at the same place by R. F. Wheeler (*T.N.H.S.* 3, 28 and 478); and in 1872 it was stated to be scarce at Rothbury by R. F. Wheeler and R. E. Hooppell (*T.N.H.S.* 5, 99).

George Bolam, writing in 1925, recorded it for Hetton Hall near Belford. He wrote: "In W. B. Boyd's collection, in 1883, I saw a considerable series all taken at Hetton Hall, where as he informed me it used to be common" (*H.B.N.C.* 25, 522).

In the Phenological Report of the Royal Meteorological Society for 1929 the Orange Tip was recorded for Thornton (nr. Shoreswood), Berwick and for Lemmington nr. Alnwick. It is interesting to note that it was seen at Gargunnock, near Stirling (VC 85), on the early date of 27.3.1929.

Since the above we have no further records for VC 68 until 12.6.1976, when two males were seen by P. Summers on the old railway track. It is thus obvious that in north Northumberland, as in Berwickshire, the Orange Tip suffered a long period of eclipse.

(to be continued)

WARWICKSHIRE AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MIGRANTS.—There was a great deal of migrant activity in Warwickshire during October as the following m.v. light trap records show. 10th October: two *Rhodometra sacraria* L. at Charlecote, a ♂ and ♀. 13th October: *Cosymbia puppillaria* Hbn., at Alveston Village (New County Record). 14th October: *Leucania vitellina* Hbn., one each at Charlecote and Hampton Lucy; *R. sacraria*, two at Hampton Lucy, one at Thelsford (A. Gardner) and one at Charlecote; *Nycterosea obstipata* F., two at Charlecote. 25th October: *Leucania unipuncta* Haw. at Marton (R. Allen) (New County Record). 9th November: *L. unipuncta* ♀ at Charlecote (A. Gardner). 11th November: *L. unipuncta* ♀ at Charlecote.

On the night of 12th October 1978, two *Peridroma porphyrea* D. & S. and a good specimen of *Leucania unipuncta* Haw. were visitors to an m.v. trap situated in the grounds of the Primary School in Deanshanger Village. This appears to be the first Northamptonshire record for *unipuncta*.—D. C. G. BROWN, Jacksons Farmhouse, 25 Charlecote, near Warwick.